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Zlokachestvennye Opukholi, Vol II, 1952, Medgiz, Moscow

REVIEW AND TABLE OF CONTENTS OF "ZLOKACHESTVENNYE OPUKHOLI" (MALIGNANT TUMORS)

#### Review of Book

This volume, edited by N. N. Petrova and S. A. Kholodina, Active Members of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, is the second of a two-volume survey of work done on malignant tumors in the USSR up to 1948. The first volume dealt with general theories and the historical development of oncology. This volume deals with specific malignant tumors in various parts of the human body. Each chapter is written by an expert on the particular type of malignant tumors being discussed. The chapters contain the following general subdivisions: statistical data, etiology, clinical course, diagnosis, and therapy.

Each chapter is devoted to a particular part of the body, and all the various types of malignant tumors affecting this area are discussed under the above-mentioned subdivisions. The statistical data given represent the experience of the chapter's author; no USSR-wide figures are cited. The sections on etiology list the anatomical changes which appear as malignant tumors develop, and the probable physical stimuli causing them. For instance, it is pointed out that malignant tumors of the lower lip are caused by repeated burning of the lip with cigars. The clinical courses and diagnoses of various tumors are described in a general manner. X-ray, palpation, and biopsy are used to detect tumors and determine malignancy. Therapy is of two types, irradiation and surgery.

X-ray apparatus and various naturally occuring radioactive elements, primarily radon and various types of radium are employed for irradiation. Weak and strong doses of Xrays are utilized. The radioactive elements are applied in special devices, implanted needles, and "mucilages" (radiumcontaining pastes which adhere to the treated organ and dry there). Appropriate safeguards are taken to protect the person administering the radioactive material, but radiation burns in the patient are considered normal, and unimportant.

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50X1-HUM

The treatment of malignant tumors seems to be very impersonal. The physicians at the Institute of Oncology, Academy of Medical Sciences USSR do not hesitate to experiment with various methods of therapy. A group of treated by one method to the exclusion of all others, in order that the statistics, but a calculable number of fatalities.

Radical measures are taken in some instances to prevent metastasis, i.e., in all cases of malignant tumors of the lower lip, the submaxillary regional moved, and before the patient is allowed to leave the hospital, because, "once pital, for further treatment."

Each chapter is followed by a bibliography. The text is well illustrated by sketches and photographs, and much of the information is summarized in the form of charts and graphs.

All the chapter authors are affiliated with the Institute of Oncology of the Academy of Medical Sciences USSR. They all appear in CIA/CD 1, May 1952 (SECRET), except Professors A. I. Rakov, A. A. K'yandskiy, I. N. Shapiro, Candidate of Medical Sciences A. V. Afanas'yeva, and Stomatologist M. K. Kostomarova.

The inscription in the front of the book reads: "To the Highly Respected A. Brunschwig in token of friendship from one of the authors of this book. Prof A. I. Rakov. Sao Paulo. 29 July 54."

# Table of Contents of Zlokachestuennye Opukholi"

	———	
	Preface	Page
I	. Malignant Tumors of the Skin, by Prof A. P. Chanin	3
ïI	Cancer of the Lower Lip, by Prof A. I. Rakov	5
III.	Malignant Tumors of the Grant A. I. Rakov	89
IV.	Malignant Tumors of the Cranial Bones, by Prof N. N. Petrov Malignant Tumors of the Brain, by Prof A. L. Polenov* and Prof I. S. Babchin	127
ν.		141
VI.	Malignant Tumors of the Eye, Prof A. A. Kolen	213
٧11.	Malignant Tumors of the Upper Jaw, by A. V. Afanas yeva, Candidate of Medical Sciences	235
VIII.	Malignant Tumors of the Lower Jaw, by Prof A. A. K'yandskiy and Stomatologist M. K. Kostomarova	266
IX.	Malignant Tumors of the Organs in the Oral Cavity, by Prof N. N. Petrov	307
		330

- 2 -

 $\underline{\mathtt{C-Q-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L}}$ 



Γ

### $\underline{\mathtt{C}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{O}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{N}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{F}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{I}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{D}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{E}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{N}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{T}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{I}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{A}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{L}}$

## 50X1-HUM

		Page
Х.	Malignant Tumors of the Salivary Glands, by Prof N. N. Petrov	408
XI.	Cancer of the Esophagus, by Prof V. I. Kazanskiy	424
XII.	Malignant Tumors of the Stomach, by Prof S. A. Kholdin	489
XIII.	Malignant Tumors of the Small Intestines, by Candidate of Medical Sciences B. L. Bronshteyn	650
XIV.	Mulignant Tumors of the Large Intestines, by Candidate of Medical Sciences B. L. Bronshteyn	677
Æ.	Malignant Tumors of the Lungs and Pleura, by B. E. Linberg and Ya. G. Dillon*	743
XVI.	Malignant Tumors of the Kidneys, Pelvis renalis, and Ureter, by Prof I. N. Shapiro	813
WII.	Malignant Tumors of the Urinary Bladder, by Prof R. M. Fronshteyn* and Prof I. N. Shapiro	842
III.	Malignant Tumors of the Prostrate Gland and the Seminal Vesicles, by Prof R. M. Fronshteyn and Prof I. N. Shapiro	862
XIX.	Malignant Tumors of the Testicle, Epididymus, and Spermatic Cord, by Prof R. M. Fronshteyn and Prof I. N. Shapiro	880
XX.	Malignant Tumors of the Male Genitals and the Urethra, by Prof R. M. Fronshteyn*	893
	Subject Index	912
	Name Index	927
	Deceased	1

- E N D -

- 3 -

 $\underline{\mathtt{C}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{O}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{N}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{F}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{I}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{D}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{E}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{N}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{T}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{I}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{A}} \underline{-} \underline{\mathtt{L}}$ 

